

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 40 and 60, without prejudice.

Please amend claims 38, 42, 52, 53, 55, 58, 62, 72, 73 and 75, as follows:

--38. (Amended) An apparatus for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

a storage device storing a predefined criterion, and having a monitoring module thereon; and

a processing device executing the monitoring module to transmit at least one instruction to the network, the at least one instruction requesting a performance of a monitoring operation to monitor the information on the network as a function of the predetermined criterion, the processing device is adapted to receive data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring operation,

wherein the information includes at least one event which is used for detecting a change on the network.

42. (Amended) An [The] apparatus [according to claim 38,] for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

a storage device storing a predefined criterion, and having a monitoring module thereon; and

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a processing device executing the monitoring module to transmit at least one instruction to the network, the at least one instruction requesting a performance of a monitoring operation to monitor the information on the network as a function of the predetermined criterion, the processing device is adapted to receive data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring operation,

wherein the information includes at least one event and at least one condition, and wherein the predefined criterion is a rule-based criterion which enables the monitoring operation to monitor for the at least one event on the network and to check if a certain condition of the at least one condition is satisfied.

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52. (Amended) An [The] apparatus [according to claim 38,] for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

a storage device storing a predefined criterion, and having a monitoring module thereon; and

a processing device executing the monitoring module to transmit at least one instruction to the network, the at least one instruction requesting a performance of a monitoring operation to monitor the information on the network as a function of the predetermined criterion, the processing device is adapted to receive data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring operation,

wherein the at least one result includes a copy of at least one monitored predicate.

53. (Amended) An [The] apparatus [according to claim 38,] for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

a storage device storing a predefined criterion, and having a monitoring module thereon; and

a processing device executing the monitoring module to transmit at least one instruction to the network, the at least one instruction requesting a performance of a monitoring operation to monitor the information on the network as a function of the predetermined criterion, the processing device is adapted to receive data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring operation,

wherein the at least one result includes a copy of a portion of at least one monitored predicate.

55. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim [40] 38, wherein the at least one event includes at least one of:

an atomic event, and

a combination of events.

58. (Amended) A method for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

receiving a predefined criterion;

monitoring the information on the network as a function of the predefined criterion; and

receiving data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring step, wherein the information includes at least one event which is used for detecting a change on the network.

62. (Amended) A [The] method [according to claim 58] for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

receiving a predefined criterion;

monitoring the information on the network as a function of the predefined criterion; and

receiving data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring step, wherein the information includes at least one event and at least one condition, and wherein the predefined criterion is a rule-based criterion, and wherein the monitoring step is performed by monitoring for the at least one event on the network and checking if a certain condition of the at least one condition is satisfied.

72. (Amended) A [The] method [according to claim 58] for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

receiving a predefined criterion;

monitoring the information on the network as a function of the predefined criterion; and

receiving data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring step, wherein the at least one result includes a copy of at least one monitored predicate.

73. (Amended) A [The] method [according to claim 58] for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

receiving a predefined criterion;

monitoring the information on the network as a function of the predefined criterion; and

receiving data from the network based on at least one result of the monitoring step, wherein the at least one result includes a copy of a portion of at least one monitored predicate.

75. (Amended) The method according to claim [60] 58, wherein the at least one event includes at least one of:

an atomic event, and
a combination of events.

Please add new claims 78-83, as follows:

--78. (New) An apparatus for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

a storage device storing a predefined criterion, and having a monitoring module thereon; and

a processing device executing the monitoring module to transmit at least one instruction to the network, the at least one instruction requesting a performance of a particular operation to continuously monitor the information on the network as a function of the predetermined criterion, the processing device is adapted to receive data from the network based on at least one result of the particular operation.

79. (New) The apparatus according to claim 78, wherein the at least one result is obtained when at least one condition is satisfied.

80. (New) A method for monitoring information on a network, comprising:

receiving a predefined criterion;

continuously monitoring the information on the network as a function of the predefined criterion; and

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receiving data from the network based on at least one result of the
monitoring step.

81. (New) The method according to claim 80, further comprising the step of:
obtaining the at least one result when at least one condition is satisfied.

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82. (New) An apparatus for monitoring information on a network, comprising:
a storage device storing a predefined criterion, and having a monitoring
module thereon; and
a processing device executing the monitoring module to transmit at least
one instruction to the network, the at least one instruction requesting a performance of
a particular operation to periodically monitor the information on the network as a
function of the predetermined criterion, the processing device is adapted to receive data
from the network based on at least one result of the particular operation.

83. (New) A method for monitoring information on a network, comprising:
receiving a predefined criterion;
periodically monitoring the information on the network as a function of the
predefined criterion; and